



Minister James Arreak  
Government of Nunavut  
Department of Environment

May 15, 2013

Hand delivered.  
May 15/13  
TR

**Re.: Southampton Island caribou herd total allowable harvest interim order (July 1, 2012- June 20, 2013) amendment**

Dear Minister Arreak,

This letter is in response to the notification of the Government of Nunavut Department of Environment's proposed amendment to the Southampton Island caribou herd total allowable harvest Interim Order for July 1, 2012- June 30, 2013 received by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board (NWMB or Board) on May 3, 2013.

As noted in correspondence between senior staff of our relevant organizations dated May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2013 the Board was unfortunately unable to provide a formal position on the issue by the end of the business day on May 3, 2013, as requested by your Department to meet Cabinet deadlines. In this correspondence, NWMB staff requested that one of the clauses on the proposed amendment be removed as the Board did not receive the results of population studies conducted by the Department of Environment, originally scheduled for June 2012, or an associated request for decision as requested by the Board in its May 30, 2012 decision letter (attached). The NWMB would like to acknowledge the response by the Department in removing this clause as requested before the proposed amendment was submitted to Cabinet for consideration.

The NWMB formally considered the request to extend the Interim Order until June 30, 2014 during Internal Meeting 005-2013, held on May 9, 2013. After careful consideration of the issue the Board passed the following resolution:

*RESOLVED that the NWMB inform the Minister of Environment that in consideration of the circumstances the NWMB is in agreement that the Total Allowable Harvest of 1000 being in effect until such time as:*

- 1) A 2013 population study is completed;*
- 2) The results of that population study are distributed;*
- 3) A proposal for NWMB decision is received; and*
- 4) That the NWMB has made a procedurally fair decision.*

As you are aware, the NWMB is required to conduct a full review of any interim decision made in response to urgent and unusual circumstances as soon as practicable thereafter (as per NLCA S. 5.3.24 and s. 158 of the Wildlife Act). Regarding a total allowable harvest for the Southampton Island caribou herd, that review will be in the form of a public hearing. The wording of the Board's decision on this matter is intended to reflect this obligation. The

procedural requirements for NLCA Article 5 decision-making are outlined in detail in the Board's attached May 20, 2012 decision letter.

Should you have any questions or concerns, or require any additional information please feel free to contact the NWMB at your convenience.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Audlakiak', written in a cursive style.

Manasie Audlakiak  
A/Chairperson  
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Attachments (1)